E & P.H **(1948) Department.**

MS **SERIES.**

G.O. No. 3523

Dated 20.10.48

[Despatch Abstract.]

MALARIA - Tungabhadra Project - ~~Extension~~ Endemic - Permanent measures contemplated in G.O.No.2755-PI dated 23-10-45 - ~~Proposals~~ - Dropped.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

FROM

Sri N.Govindarajan, B.A., B.E.,
Special Chief Engineer,
Chepauk, Madras.

TO

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health
Department, Madras.

No.118/46P-63, dated 4-2-1948.

Sir,

Sub: Malaria - Tungabhadra Project Permanent measures - Estimates of cost.

Ref: Govt.Memo.No.83659/47-I.E-1, P.H., dt.20-10-47.

Please see G.O.Ms.No. 2755 P.H., dated 23-10-45. which deals with the problem of endemic (malaria) villages in the Tungabhadra Project area. The appendix to this G.O. gives the approximate cost of canalising and other minor engineering works required as furnished by the Director of Public Health.

2. It is my view based on more recent experience that our whole approach to anti-malarial operations in general require some re-orientation. We have now satisfactorily eliminated malaria at the Headquarters works by systematic spraying of D.D.T. and pyrethrum, by oiling water courses, and perhaps, to a small degree, by doing some minor engineering works also. It is my experience and this has also been supported by the Deputy Director of Public Health in charge of malaria, (he mentioned it in the Committee meeting convened for Agency tracts in the Godavari), that more than minor engineering works, the D.D.T. and pyrethrum spraying have gone to make our operations effective. This seems to me a clear indication that what we should aim at principally is to immunise living houses and areas. The advent of the D.D.T. has very much simplified and narrowed down the problem of malaria control, and there should now be no need to canalise and revet water courses far away from houses on any intensive scale. The proposals for canalising and perhaps also for shifting villages wholesale (contained in the G.O. read above) seem to be out-of-date as it would appear that we can effectively eliminate malaria now wihtout resorting to such heroic measures. I therefore suggest that the Director of Public Health may be requested to consider what revision is necessary in these proposals in the light of the advance made in methods of malaria control in the past 2 years or so.

3. The minimum amount of minor engineering works required may of course be done but not at the cost of Tungabhadra Project as the Project is not responsible in any sense for the malaria that is already there. If the Health aspect of these villages is receiving the active consideration it now receives, it is no doubt due to the early prospect of these villages benefitting from the Tungabhadra Project. And that in itself is a positive gain which these villages owe to the advent of the project.

4. I may observe here that in the last few years there has been a fast growing tendency for every Department to aim at self-sufficiency and that tendency has been encouraged on the plea of specialisation. This development has however worked towards isolation; and what co-ordination there was between departments, has tended to get lessened or even to disappear. For instance, the Public Works Department creates a Physics section on the plea that its peculiar problems can be tackled only by having a physicist under it; the Electricity Department runs its own Civil Engineer Branch and the Health Department has its own Engineer. There may be reasons for doing so, but once it is done it must logically take us to the next step. Thus, if the Health Department feels it can solve minor engineering problems connected with the canalisation etc., then it should take up all such work. Doing a

p.t.o.

portion of it itself and leaving the rest of it to be done by Public Works Department, as suggested in this case, may, I am afraid, lead to divided responsibility. Of course, I have no objection, once the estimate is prepared by the Director of Public Health to get it checked by the Public Works Department with regard to rates etc.

I have dealt with this aspect in some detail in order that the Government may consider all aspects of the problem and evolve a suitable and consistent policy.

5. As for taking up or doing these minor Engineering works by my staff, I have to state that the staff position in the Tungabhadra Project is still very tight and it will be impossible for me to find the staff now.

6. The canalising of vankas is really a health measure and is called for whether or not the project will extend its benefit to these villages. The Project is concerned only in so far as such early attention to these villages will make the villagers prepare themselves in advance and be health and ready to make full use of the waters of the Tungabhadra Project when they come.

I therefore consider that the canalisation if still required should essentially be launched as a measure of general improvement to these villages and, as in the case of all normal health measures, the staff required for it should be provided by the General Branch of the Public Works Department.

Sd. x x x
for Chief Engineer, (Special)

Copy with copy of Govt.Memo.dated 20-10-47 to
the Superintending Engineer, Tungabhdara [illegible]
Canals Circle.
Copy to Chief Engineer (General). for information.

Education & Public Health Dept.

Endt. 83659/47-3-E.1-PH, dated 13-2-48.

Referred to the Director of Public Health for early remarks.

Sd. x x x x
Asst. Secy. to Government.

To
The Director of Public Health,
Madras.

R.No.11220-3-Mal/48. Office of the Director of Public Health, Madras, dated 12th June 1948.

Sub: Malaria - Tungabhadra Project - Permanent measures - Estimate of cost.
Ref: Govt. Endt.No.33659-47-e.E.1,PH,dt. 13-2-48.

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Retransmitted.

2. I agree with the views expressed by the Special Chief Engineer in para 1 and 2 of his letter under reference. With the advent of D.D.T. and the large-scale use of this insecticide in malaria control by residual sprays of dwelling houses, malaria has been very effectively controlled in the Tungabhadra Project areas The original proposals contemplated in G.O.Ms.No.2755-PH,dated 23-10-45 in respect of permanent entimalaria measures like canalising and revetting of streams and otherm minor engineering works may therefore be dropped.

Sd. x x
For Director of Public Health,Madras.

To the Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department,Madras.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
ABSTRACT.

Malaria - Tungabhadra Project - Endemic permanent measures, contemplated in G.O.No.2755,PH,dated 23-10-45 - Proposal,dropped.

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Education & Public Health Department.

G.O.Ms.No. 3523 Dated 20-10-48.

Read the following:-

From the Chief Engineer, Special No.118/46-P.63,dt.4-2-48.
From the Director of Public Health,R.No.11220-3 -Mal.48 dt.12-6-48.
-do- R.No.11220-5-Mal-48 dt.11-9-48.

ORDER:

In partial modification of the orders in para 2 of the G.O.No. 2755,PH, dated 23-10-45 the Government direct that the proposals for permanent anti-malaria measures in the Tungabhadra Project area referred to in Item I of para 1 of the G.O. be dropc

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

Sd. xx x
Secy.to Government.

To The Director of Public Health,
The Chief Engineer (Special),
" (Irrigation),
The Board of Revenue,
The Accountant General thro' Finance,
The Secretary, Ceded Districts' Economic Development Board,
The Agent General to Government of India in Hyderabad,
The Public Works Department and Revenue Department.

/True copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

PSR. 2-7-53.

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